

Serial No. 09/666,684
Atty. Doc. No. 00P7901US

REMARKS

Claims 7, 8, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22 and 23 are pending in the application. To expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicants have cancelled claim 22 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claim 22 at a later date.

Claim 23 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 23 to be in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 7, 8, 14, 15, 19, 20 and 23.

Rejection of Claim 22 Under § 103


Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on U.S. Patent No. 6,072,259 ("Kawabata") and U.S. Patent No. 4,160,926 ("Cope"). Claim 22 has been cancelled.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the application should now be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this paper or application, or if any issues remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve such issue or question. The commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 22. Please amend claim 23 as follows:

23. (Amended) A method for supporting a stator coil to thereby reduce vibrations within a stator, the method comprising:

radially supporting the bottom of end portions of the contents of a stator coil slot by the use of a coil support finger plate having a base portion thereof which defines a stator coil slot bottom; and

further comprising positioning first and second stator slot wedges each to overlie a corresponding one of end portions of first and second stator coil slots and in first and second spaced-apart, wedge lands formed in the coil support finger plate, the first wedge land for the first wedge being formed in a distal end portion of at least one finger of the coil support finger plate extending between end portions of the first and second stator coil slots and the second wedge land for the second wedge being formed in the distal end portion of the same at least one finger of the coil support finger plate;

[A method as defined in Claim 22,] wherein the at least one finger also has medial portions thereof which extend along side peripheries of only one of the end portions of the first and second stator coil slots.